



Minutes
City Of Edina, Minnesota
Human Rights and Relations Commission
City Hall, Community Room
October 27, 2015 at 7:00pm

I. Call To Order

Chair Arseneault called the October 27th, 2015 Human Rights and Relations Commission meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

II. Roll Call

Answering roll call were Chair Arseneault, Commissioners Burza, Kennedy, Rinn, Seidman, Tian, Vecchio-Smith, Winnick, and Student Commissioners Kearney and Ramesh. Staff present: HRRC Staff Liaison MJ Lamon and City Management Fellow Devin Massopust.

III. Approval Of Meeting Agenda

Motion by Seidman to approve the October 27, 2015 Human Rights and Relations Commission meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Kennedy. Motion carried.

IV. Approval Of Meeting Minutes

Motion by Kennedy to approve the September 29, 2015 minutes. Motion seconded by Winnick. Motion carried.

V. Special Recognitions and Presentations

A. FBI Special Agent Timothy Wittman

FBI Special Agent Timothy Wittman gave a presentation about the work of the FBI's Civil Rights Program.

VI. Community Comment

None.

VII. Reports/Recommendations

A. 2015 Work Plan Updates

1. Community Outreach

Commissioner Burza shared that the Community Conversations listening sessions were completed earlier this month, and they were a success, with about 65-75 attendees overall. Both Student Commissioners Kearney and Ramesh participated in the listening sessions as group facilitators / note takers. It is anticipated the working group will report to the commission in November.

2. Human Rights City Designation

Commissioner Kennedy advised that efforts to schedule presentations for the Human Rights City Designation are ongoing.

3. Affordable Housing

Commissioner Winnick updated the Commission on the Edina City Council's recent approval of an affordable housing policy that will go into effect on November 1, 2015.

4. ADA Event Proposal

Commissioner Vecchio-Smith shared her draft blog post and noted she will work with Commissioner Tian on the post.

5. Website Update

Commissioner Tian reported that our webpage has been updated as per the commission's final instructions and that he will work with Commissioner Seidman on posting photos and videos of past HRRC events.

B. Letter of Support: Make MN Capitol Art More Welcoming

Chair Arseneault recapped the Minnesota Healing Stories Capitol Art initiative and presented for HRRC review a letter of support drafted by the Eden Prairie Human Rights Commission for joint submission by cities' Human Rights Commissions.

Motion by Kennedy to approve the Letter of Support. Motion seconded by Vecchio-Smith. Motion carried.

C. Tom Oye Award

Commissioner Rinn presented the changes to the Tom Oye Award on the HRRC website and noted that advertising the award can begin.

D. Joint Work Session Plan

The HRRC will have a joint work session with City Council on Tuesday, November 17. Chair Arseneault reminded the group that the work session is to provide a progress report on the current work plan. Chair Arseneault will prepare the agenda outline for the work session based on the commission's discussion and preferences.

E. Edina Community Council HRRC Representative

Commissioner Winnick is stepping down from his seat as HRRC Representative of the Edina Community Council. Commissioner Kennedy volunteered to take his place. The recommended appointment will go to council for approval at their November 17 meeting.

Motion by Kennedy to be Commissioner Winnick's replacement as the HRRC Representative on the Edina Community Council. Motion seconded by Rinn. Motion carried.

VIII. Correspondence and Petitions

None.

IX. Chair and Member Comments

- Commissioner Kennedy advised the commission of the upcoming meeting of the League of Minnesota Cities Human Rights Commissions on November 7th.
- Commissioner Ramesh thanked all those involved with the Community Conversations events.
- Commissioner Rinn updated the Commission on the current status of Human Services funding.
- Chair Arseneault shared that the Bias Offense Response team convened on October 22 about a graffiti incident in Pamela Park; that she attended an Arts and Culture Commission meeting to provide information about the Capitol Arts Project as per the suggestion of the HRRC, and that she participated in the Edina Boards and Commissions Chairs meeting and the Boards and Commissions Work Session with City Council on draft 2016 work plans, noting that both the Chairs meeting and the work session offered an opportunity to explore options for boards and commissions to work jointly on future projects.

X. Staff Comments

None.

XI. Calendar of Events

XII. Adjournment

Motion by Seidman to adjourn the October 27th HRRC meeting at 9:43 PM. Motion seconded by Kennedy. Motion carried.